DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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April 23, 2012

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair and Members of the Committee on Transportation State House of Representatives State Capital Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Souki and Committee Members:

Subject: Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 111, SD1 Affordable Housing and Support Services Within Transit-Oriented Development Zones

The Department of Planning and Permitting supports efforts that promote good community planning. We are pleased with the state legislature's interest in transit-oriented development (TOD), as outlined by SCR 111, SD1. It seeks to preserve and expand affordable housing, community support services, and healthy communities within the proposed fixed-rail transit corridor. These objectives are consistent with our TOD goals and objectives.

If you have attended any of our community meetings on TOD, there are specific recommendations formulated for affordable housing, social services, and other projects leading to healthier and safer lifestyles. Moreover, the proposed Ho'opili project in Ewa is proposing community gardens and other benefits as their own initiative, demonstrated that there is already private sector acknowledgement of the need to create "complete communities".

We support healthy community initiatives. We are planning for them, and developing priority implementation actions to realize them. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

David K. Tanoue, Director

Department of Planning and Permitting

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## Testimony of C. Mike Kido External Affairs The Pacific Resource Partnership

## COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION Representative Joseph M. Souki, Chair Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

SCR No. 111 – Urging the City and County Of Honolulu to Preserve and Create New Affordable Housing Opportunities, Family-Oriented Support Services, Health Centers, Community Centers, Retail Services Related To Healthy Living, and Community Gardens Within Transit-Oriented Development Zones Along The Honolulu Rail Transit Project Corridor

Monday, April 23, 2012 1:30 pm Conference Room 225

Aloha Chair Souki, Chair Ichiyama and members of the committee:

My name is C. Mike Kido, External Affairs of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), a labor-management consortium representing over 240 signatory contractors and the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters, formerly the Hawaii Carpenters Union.

PRP supports SCR No. 111 for the following reasons. PRP has supported the City and County of Honolulu's rail transit project since its inception. One of the most important long-term benefits of the project is the opportunity to develop sensibly and responsibly along the transit alignment. Compact development that is centered around transit stations can help us meet housing demand in the Urban Core, make a dramatic difference to our environment, and create thousands of construction jobs for years to come.

PRP has invested in ongoing educational efforts to learn about transit-oriented development (TOD) and the benefits such a development strategy would have here in Honolulu. Through our participation in Rail-Volution, a national conference dedicated to creating livable communities that are healthy, economically vibrant, socially equitable, and environmentally sustainable, we have come to understand transit's role in:

- Creating livable communities by linking bicycle, pedestrian, and street networks.
- Providing opportunities for increased private sector investment in creating livable communities.
- Encouraging greater civic participation in the creation and support of livable communities.

In addition, PRP is currently working with a group of community stakeholders across multiple sectors and Calthorpe and Associates to identify and quantify the benefits of a transit-oriented development scenario in the City and County of Honolulu. While the study is not yet complete, the preliminary results are very encouraging.

We concur with SCR No. 111 that affordable housing, family-oriented services, health and community centers, and retail services should all be considered in the TOD planning process.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views with you. We respectfully ask for your support on SCR No. 111.